

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/743,191

Examiner

John B. Vigushin

Applicant(s)

MOTOE, HIRONORI

Art Unit

2841

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 16 Nov 2006.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-4 and 7-11.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. The present Office Action is responsive to Applicant's Amendment filed November 16, 2006. The Examiner acknowledges the amendments to the Specification and Claims 2, 3, 7 and 10. Claims 1-4 and 7-11 remain pending in the instant amended Application.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

2. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

The amendments to the Specification are acknowledged as proper except for the one indicated at section (i) of p.4 in the Applicant's instant Amendment of November 16, 2006. At said section (i) of p.4 of the Applicant's instant Amendment, the amendment resulted in the sentence (comprising the first two lines of the cited specification paragraph in said section (i) of p.4) that currently reads as follows:

"A connector 211A is provided at one end of the MPEG module 21 to connect to ~~the splitter~~ each tuner 211 via a cable."

However, the above amendment by the Applicant is incorrect and was not the corrective change that was indicated by the Examiner on p.5, section 5(A)(iii)(a) of the Office Action of August 21, 2006. Therefore, the Examiner now further amends the above-cited Applicant-amended sentence (on p.4, section (i) of Applicant's instant

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Amendment, first two lines of the indicated paragraph), in accordance with the above-indicated Examiner's correction from the previous Office Action of August 21, 2006 as follows:

--A connector 211A is provided at one end of the ~~MPEG module 21~~ each tuner 211 to connect to the splitter 306 ~~each tuner 211~~ via a cable--.

Allowable Subject Matter

3. Claims 1-4 and 7-11 have been allowed.

a) As previously indicated in section 11, pp.11-12, in the Examiner's Office Action of August 21, 2006:

(i) The patentability of base Claim 1 resides in *the second connecting portion located in an opposite direction to the first connecting portion*, in combination with the other limitations of the claim.

(ii) The patentability of base Claim 9 resides in *the second connecting portion located in an opposite direction to the first connecting portion*, in combination with the other limitations of the claim.

b) Furthermore, the Applicant's instant amendment of base Claim 7 places the claim in condition for allowance, wherein:

(i) The patentability of base Claim 7 resides in *the second input portion being located in an opposite direction to the first input portion*, in combination with the other limitations of the claim.

Conclusion

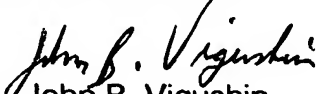
4. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Brekelmans (US 6,151,488) discloses two tuners merged into one module, wherein the tendency towards mutual interference between the oscillator of one tuner and the received RF signal in the other tuner is electronically countered by means of adjusting the range of the oscillator frequencies of the first tuner with respect to the known signal frequencies of the RF signals received in the second tuner, as well as other frequency adjustment measures taken between the two tuners (col.2: 40-col.3: 11; col.3: 36-col.4: 55). Brekelmans does not teach or fairly suggest any optimal positioning of the first tuner with respect to the second tuner to effect reduction of mutual interference between the two tuners merged into the single module.

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to John B. Vigushin whose telephone number is 571-272-1936. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30AM-5:00PM Mo-Fri.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's acting supervisor, Dean Reichard can be reached on 571-272-1984. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.


John B. Vigushin
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2841

jbv
December 05, 2006